

"The Mission of Lycoming Presbyterian Church is to proclaim the gospel to its members and the world." - *The Session*

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 AM ♦ WORSHIP 10:45 AM

REV. DR. LARRY LEFEBER, PASTOR ♦ 570-244-7593

STUDY AND CHURCH OFFICE: 825 Arch Street ♦ (570) 326-9218

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday ♦ 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

email: lycopres1@verizon.net

**Todd Benner, *Music Director* ♦ Betty Tompkins, *Treasurer*
Marianne Tupper, *Secretary***

THE SESSION: MARIANNE TUPPER, CLERK

2019

Linda Aston
Heath Barry

2020

Jean Bell
Kurt Horak

2021

Craig Myers
Betty Tompkins

THE BOARD OF DEACONS: CHRISTINE ATKINS, MODERATOR

2019

Gloria Reillo
Judy Yagel

2020

Kari Barry
Dewane Stuck

2021

Laurie Bell
Chris Atkins

CHURCH SCHOOL

Linda Aston

FINANCIAL

SECRETARY

Marianne Tupper

HEAD USHER

Craig Myers

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS:

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Ordinarily the first Sunday of the month, or as occasion warrants.

BAPTISM

Please contact the Church Office.



Third Sunday of Advent

GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME TO WORSHIP
IN GOD’S HOUSE

We hope that our visitors will feel at home in the service. To aid your participation, please refer to the laminated worship guide in your pew rack. To make your presence known, please complete a visitor’s card provided there and place it in the collection plate.

THE VISION OF LYCOMING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“Lycoming Presbyterian Church lives to do three things:

- † *To introduce Jesus Christ to those who do not know and love Him;*
- † *To deepen the faith and commitment of those who already know Him;*
- † *To demonstrate Christ’s way of love in service to the world.”*

CHRIST IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

As the candles are lit, we bid you to seek the Light.
May those who sorrow find comfort;
the weary, rest; the troubled, peace;
the stranger, friends; the happy, joy;
and

to all the sense of God’s presence in this, His Holy Place.
Let all the world keep silent before Him.

Advent Song with Devotions and Lighting
(stz. 3 of the Advent Song, printed in the bulletin, page 7)
Betty Tompkins & Family

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

“Angels We Have Heard on High” -Melody Bober

IMPORTANT DATES:

- December 15** - Third Sunday of Advent
Last day to order Poinsettias
- December 22** - Fourth Sunday of Advent
- December 24** - Christmas Eve
7:00 PM - Christmas Music
7:30 PM - Candlelight Service
- December 25** - Nativity of Jesus Christ/Christmas Day
Christ the Savior is Born!
Merry Christmas

Advent Song

*Light the Advent candle, three:
Think of heavenly harmony;
angels singing “Peace on earth”
at the blessed Savior’s birth.*

*Candle, candle, burning bright,
shining in the cold winter night;
candle, candle, burning bright,
fill our hearts with Christmas light.*

Hymns for the Family of God
#2090
~Mary Lu Walker~

POINSETTIAS: *Today* is the last day to place an order for Christmas Poinsettias. **The cost is \$4.00 per plant**. Please use the order form in your bulletin. The Poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary for the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, then removed to your homes.

2020 PER CAPITA: *The Per Capita is \$35.65 for each individual member. The Per Capita for a husband & wife is \$71.30. Please make a note of this amount.* There will be a special envelope designated for the Per Capita in your church envelope box. If by chance you have not paid the 2019 amount (\$35.55 per individual member), we'd appreciate you do so by the end of the year. If members do not pay this assessment, we, the church, must pay it.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:

TODAY *The Coin Tree Offering will be donated to the Shoe Express at the West End Christian Community Center.*

The Christmas Eve Offering will also be donated to the West End Christian Community Center, Shoe Express.

Donations of hats, mittens, scarves, given to the Newberry Branch of the Needlework Guild of America, will be placed on the Mitten Tree.

Monetary donations are being received for the **Little Ones Clothes Closet** to buy winter jackets & coats for children ages 2 through 8 years that live in the area around St. Joseph the Worker Church.

Please give generously to these worth-while causes.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE: Join us at **7:00 PM** for special music & at 7:30 PM our Candlelight Service. *Tracy Setzer will lead the service & Joanne Kiehl will be the organist.*

Invite your family & friends. *What a wonderful way to help celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.*

AN INVITATION: Marc & Marianne would like to invite you to their home following the Christmas Eve service for a time of Christmas fellowship. Everyone is welcome & feel to bring your family.

★ THE BELL TOLLS AND WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

Elder Craig Myers

Beadle

★ ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE GIVEN

★ CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 9:6-10 (NASB)

B: For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders;

P: And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

B: His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.

P: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.

★ WE OPEN IN PRAYER

★ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, it is we who have secularized Christmas; It is we who have rationalized the gross commercialization of this most Sacred Season; It is we who have substituted the Santa Clause figure for the Christ figure; It is we who have drowned out the angel choruses with reindeer and chipmunk ditties; It is we who have grown accustomed to applying the Christian Message of peace And Brotherhood to other people, rather than to ourselves. Forgive us, Lord, and as we travel this advent road towards Bethlehem's Manger, give us an openness of heart which makes room for the Savior and proclaim Him as the King of our lives. Amen.

★ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

★ WE SAY WHAT WE BELIEVE

(Apostle's Creed)
(Worship Guide)

★ THE GLORIA PATRI

(Worship Guide)

★ Those of the congregation who are able to do so, please stand.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-20

CHILDREN'S LESSON

MESSAGE

"A Shepherd's Hope"

Rev. Robert Andrews

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

★ HYMN

"While Shepherd's Watched Their Flocks by Night"
#175

WE BRING OUR GIFTS

(If you are visiting with us today, please sign a visitor's pew card and place it in the offering plate.)

THE OFFERTORY

"Away in a Manger" -Melody Bober

★ THE PRESENTATION AND DOXOLOGY (Worship Guide)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

★ CLOSING HYMN

"Good Christian Men, Rejoice" #177

BEARING LIGHT TO THE WORLD (Acolyte)

★ SAYING THE BENEDICTION

**"May the Lord watch between me and thee,
while we are absent one from another."**

★ SINGING THE BENEDICTION

"Blest Be the Tie" (Worship Guide)

POSTLUDE

"Still, Still, Still"

-Traditional Austrian Carol

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS: To the Glory and Honor of God.

THIS WEEK AT LYCOMING:

Monday & Wednesday, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM:

Thursday, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM:

Christian Martial Arts/Warriors for Christ

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9:00 AM - Noon:

Lycoming Nursery School

WELCOME: If you are visiting with us today, we welcome you and hope you will visit with us again. Please sign a visitor's pew card and place it in the offering plate. Thank you.

WELCOME BACK: This morning we are happy to welcome back Rev. Robert Andrews & Ben Manetta. Please give him a warm welcome.

COFFEE HOUR: The Bell Family is hosting the coffee hour this morning. Please join us for a time of fellowship & refreshments following worship in the lounge.

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING: The attendance last week 25 & the offering was \$712.00.

FOOD PANTRY: The Deacons are receiving *monetary donations* for the Food Pantry at the *West End Christian Community Center* instead of food items. Please put your donation in an envelope marked Food Pantry. Thank you.

GIFTS OF THE HEART: Don't forget to add supplies that are needed to fill the buckets & kits for the Presbyterian Disaster project.